IN LOVING MEMORY

Antonina Noreen Onono Swanson

Nina

AGED 49

2 FEBRUARY 1972 – 15 AUGUST 2021

In Loving Memory

10 SEPTEMBER 2021 • 1.45 PM • BLUEBELL CEMETERY, KENT.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Entrance Music

Welcome and Introduction

Bible Reading – Psalm 23

Eulogy

Memories of Nina

Time of Reflection

Hymn – O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder

The Lord's Prayer

Final Prayers of Committal

Closing Words

Exit Music

Death leaves a heartache no one can heal.
Love leaves a memory no one can steal.
Forever in our hearts.

WITH LOVE FROM THE SWANSON & ACHOLA FAMILIES

In Loving Memory

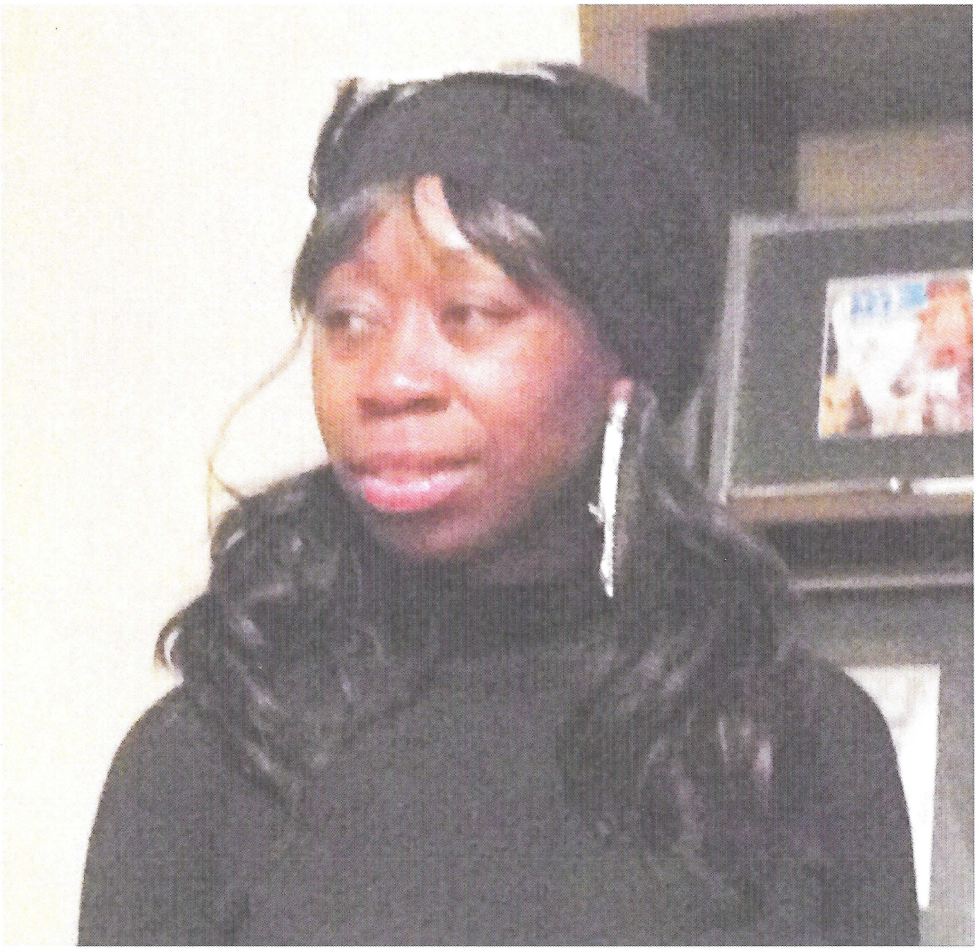
BIBLE READING: PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd
I shall not want
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures
He leadeth me beside the still waters
He restoreth my soul
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
For his name's sake

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
I will fear no evil
For thou art with me
Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me

Thou preparest a table before me
In the presence of mine enemies
Thou anointest my head with oil
My cup runneth over
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days of my life
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord
For ever

Amen



EULOGY

Antonina Noreen Onono Swanson - Popularly known as Nina

Nina was the wife of Mr Gavin Robert Swanson and mother of Kameron Awino Ndinya Swanson and Natasha Diana Achieng Swanson Nina was born on 2nd February 1972 in Nairobi, Kenya in Pumwani Hospital. Nina was the first of four children of the late Prof. Jeckoniah Oliver Ndinya-Achola (a world-renowned Microbiologist and Researcher and a Doctor of Medicine) and the late Mrs. Diana Awino Achola (a Personnel officer ICRC - International Committee of the Red Cross), both of blessed memory.

Nina was a sister to the late Dr. James Christian Ndinya Achola, Ms. Evelyn Achola Ndinya and Ms. Joy Jenipher Adero Achola Ndinya.

Nina was an adorable child and very much loved by her parents and siblings. She was a firecracker as a child. Nina was a loving, respectful and attentive daughter. Even when she moved to the UK, she always made sure to call home to check up on her parents and their entire family.

Nina started her primary school education at Mbagathi Primary School in 1977 before moving to Kilimani Primary School in 1982 where she sat for the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (K.C.P.E) in 1985. Nina was an exceptional pupil in primary school and also an avid sports fan, especially in gymnastics. Whenever the Olympics was on, she would gather all the neighbourhood children and have them doing gymnastics in the middle field of the neighbourhood. Such was her love for sport. Looks like Kameron her son, took after his mother –Sorry Gav.

In 1985 she joined Kianda School and sat for the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education in 1989. After her secondary education, she joined Kenyatta University for undergraduate studies in Education. Nina always reminded me that it was a top university. While waiting to further her studies, she joined the Goethe Language Institute and polished her German language. Yes, Nina once upon a time spoke German almost fluently! Nina, later left

EULOGY

Kenya to the United Kingdom to further her studies at the University of Hull and completed a Masters Program in Education.

Whilst in the UK she met Gavin a dashing young man who swept her off her feet. They got married on the 27th of August 1999 with a colourful wedding in Aberdeen, Scotland. Soon after, they were blessed with a wonderful son Kameron on 15th January 2000 and later welcomed their daughter Natasha on 4th June 2004. You can tell there was never a dull moment.

Nina was a loving mother. She adored her children so much and wanted the best for them. She chose to put her career on ice to focus on growing and nurturing her children. She taught them so many vital values. She believed in helping her children to be the best they could be. Good manners were always first on her list as she believed that would go a long way in helping in their day to day interactions.

Nina loved Gavin to the core and supported him in everything and in every way possible. They even once upon a time had a business together where Nina was listed as one of the Directors. She certainly was the Director of financial affairs and kept Gavin in check. She balanced the books and was able to support the business until it was dissolved.

Among other things, Nina was an amazing person to her friends. She loved and invited all her friends home; there was never a weekend when she didn't have friends over in their home in Kenya. I am sure her friends in the UK will attest to Nina's sociable nature. Whenever she visited Kenya, she made sure she had as many family members around her as possible. She shared what she had with so many. She was a giver and always tried to help others when she could. She lived life to the fullest.

Nina touched the lives of many. She certainly touched mine. She will forever live in our hearts and remembered with great affection. May the Almighty God rest her soul in eternal peace.Sleep well our angel.

MEMORIES OF NINA

Dear Mum,

Through thick and thin we always loved you with all our heart.

To name the ways you had us crying tears of laughter, we would not know where to start.

Your life was a gift, it filled us with beautiful memories
And however unrealistic, we imagined you would live for centuries
We are grateful for all that you taught us, and thankful for your wisdom.

We will hold it with us dearly, as you take up your place in God's kingdom.

We wish we could have had more time, if even just one more day
But heaven chose its newest angel, and it's time you flew away.

With Love Kameron & Natasha

MEMORIES OF NINA

Our Dearest Sister Nina,

May God rest your soul in peace.

We are beyond saddened by your passing. If you asked us just a few weeks ago, we would tell you that we were convinced that we'd have you for many years but God has his own plans. He called you home to be with Him. We will miss your energy, your vivacious spirit and your never-ending love for life.

She treated us (her siblings) like she would her own children, both when she came to Kenya and when we lived with her in London. She took on the role of a mother and carried it out with excellence. We love her and will miss her deeply.

Undoubtedly you are spreading your infectious fun-loving energy all over heaven. Our mother, father, brother and all other loved ones that have gone before you, we are sure, will welcome you with open arms. One day we will all meet again in heaven. Until then, rest in perfect peace our beautiful angel. Rest in perfect Peace sister. We love you dearly. God speed.

By, Evelyn and Joy

POEM

You can shed tears that she is gone
or you can smile because she has lived.

You can close your eyes and pray that she'll come back
or you can open your eyes and see all she's left.

Your heart can be empty because you can't see her
or you can be full of the love you shared.

You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday
or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.

You can remember her and only that she's gone
or you can cherish her memory and let it live on,

You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back
Or you can do what she'd want; smile, open your eyes, love and go on.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven,

give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil,

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,

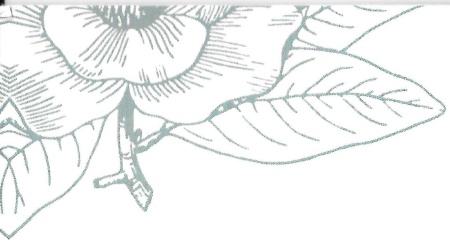
for ever and ever.

AMEN.

The journey doesn't end here. Death is just another path, one that we all must take.

The Family invite you to join them after the service for refreshments at:

Addington Palace Golf Club,
Gravel Hill,
Croydon, Surrey,
CR0 5BB

Thank you very much for coming today and for your words of comfort and support. We really appreciate it.

Gavin, Kameron and Natasha Swanson & The Achola Family (Kenya).